

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**  
**SYNCHRONIZATION AND OVERLAP METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR SINGLE**  
**BUFFER SPEECH COMPRESSION AND EXPANSION**

5           The present invention (110) permits a user to speed up and slow down speech without changing the speakers pitch (102, 110, 112, 128, 402 - 416). It is a user adjustable feature to change the spoken rate to the listeners' preferred listening rate or comfort. It can be included on the phone as a customer convenience feature without changing any characteristics of the speakers voice besides the speaking rate with soft  
10 key button (202) combinations (in interconnect or normal). From the users perspective, it would seem only that the talker changed his speaking rate, and not that the speech was digitally altered in any way. The pitch and general prosody of the speaker are preserved. The following uses of the time expansion/compression feature are listed to compliment already existing technologies or applications in progress  
15 including messaging services, messaging applications and games, real-time feature to slow down the listening rate.